REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, the Examiner objects to the specification, title, and Abstract for the reasons set forth in the Office Action. Applicant amends the specification, title, and Abstract, as indicated herein, and Applicant believes that these amendments obviate some of the Examiner's objections of the specification, title, and Abstract. Also, with respect to the Examiner's objections to the specification as set forth in numbered paragraph three (3) of the Office Action, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the preliminary Amendment filed on November 30, 2000, as that preliminary Amendment appropriately adds sections to the specification.

Also, Figure 1 is objected to, for the reasons set forth on page 4 of the Office Action. Applicant submits herewith a proposed corrected Figure 1, and Applicant believes that the enclosed corrected Figure 1 obviates the Examiner's objection to Figure 1.

Yet further, the claims are objected to, for the reasons set forth on pages 4 and 5 of the Office Action. In response, Applicant points out that a preliminary amendment was filed concurrently with the filing of the present application, and submits that the changes made in the preliminary amendment should overcome many of the Examiner's objections to the claims. Also, Applicant further amends the claims, as indicated herein, and believes that these amendments further obviate the Examiner's objections to the claims.

Claims 1-9 are all the claims pending in the present application. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Rich et al. (U.S. Patent No.:

6,457,065), hereinafter referred to as Rich. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as

allegedly being unpatentable over Rich in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

§102(e) Rejections (Rich) - Claims 1-8

Claims 1-8 are rejected for the reasons set forth on pages 5-8 of the Office Action.

Applicant traverses these rejections at least based on the following reasons.

To anticipate a claimed invention, a prior art reference must teach or suggest each and

every limitation of the claimed invention. Here, Applicant submits that Rich does not teach or

suggest each and every limitation of independent claim 1, for example.

The present invention, as recited in claim 1, is directed to a method of implementing a

tree of distributed objects in different processes, wherein there is a central directory adapted to

store information on objects in a data structure at the root of the tree; the method comprises

assigning to a father object in a process, for each son object: information corresponding to a

physical address if the son object is contained in same process, or information referring back to

said central directory if the son object is not contained in the same process.

Rich, on the other hand, relates to a technique for replicating objects in distributed object

systems to reduce network round trips during program execution and to improve system

performance. Such is accomplished by replicating remote objects to local systems which access

the objects.

With respect to the rejection of claim 1, in the Office Action, the Examiner simply recites

the limitations of claim 1 and cites portions of Rich between col. 1, line 20 and col. 4, line 67.

The portion of Rich cited by the Examiner only relates to the description of Rich set forth in the paragraph above. Nowhere, however, does the Examiner demonstrate that Rich teaches or suggests at least a "central directory adapted to store information on objects in a data structure at the root of the tree" or the claimed step of assigning to a father object in a process, for each son object, "information referring back to said central directory if the son object is not contained in the same process" as recited in claim 1. That is, nowhere does Rich even discuss a central directory in a data structure at the root of the tree, or that information referring back to a central directory is assigned to a father object if a son object is not contained in same process, as described in claim 1. Absent the teaching or suggestion of at least the features set forth above, Rich does not satisfy each and every limitation of the claimed invention. The Examiner only generally describes the teachings of Rich, but none of the teachings of Rich meet the specific limitations set forth in claim 1 of the present invention.

Yet further, the Examiner does not identify which aspects of Rich allegedly correspond to the claimed central directory adapted to store information on objects in a data structure at the root of the tree. Applicant submits that there is no such corresponding component in Rich, and therefore Rich does not anticipate the claimed invention as set forth in claim 7.

With respect to dependent claims 2-8, Applicant submits that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their respective indirect or direct dependencies from independent claim 1.

Further, with respect to dependent claim 2, Applicant submits that Rich does not teach or suggest the limitations of claim 2 including at least "if said logical name is not in the central directory, the central directory searches its data structure for a logical name with the longest

character string equal to a first part of the character string of the logical name received, in order

to send to a father object, the request relating to the first object" as recited in claim 2. That is,

nowhere does Rich discuss at least the particular limitations of claim 2 set forth above.

Further, with respect to dependent claim 4, Applicant submits that Rich does not teach or

suggest at least that "the central directory manages the redundancy of the processes by selecting

one of several processes containing the requested object," as recited in claim 4. To support the

rejection of claim 4, the Examiner discuss Fig. 5 of Rich and the shared transaction 510 thereof.

Fig. 5 merely illustrates the fact that each transaction and subtransaction has a view logically

associated therewith, however it does not show the specific limitations of claim 4 recited above.

At least based on the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, as

recited in claims 1-8, is patentably distinguishable over Rich.

§103(a) Rejection (Rich / AAPA) - Claim 9

Claim 9 is rejected for the reasons set forth on page 9 of the Office Action. Applicant

submits that claim 9 is patentable over the applied references at least based on its dependency

from independent claim 1. The AAPA does not make up for the deficiencies of Rich.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed

to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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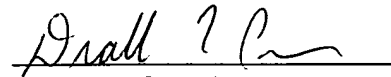
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